

(i) The particular return information to be disclosed;

(ii) The taxable period or date to which such return information relates; and

(iii) The particular purpose for which the return information is to be used.

(2) No such officer or employee to whom return information is disclosed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section shall disclose such return information to any person, other than the taxpayer to whom such return information relates or other officers or employees of the Department of Agriculture whose duties or responsibilities require such disclosure for a purpose described in paragraph (b) of this section, except in a form that cannot be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer. If the IRS determines that the Department of Agriculture, or any officer or employee thereof, has failed to, or does not, satisfy the requirements of section 6103(p)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code or regulations or published procedures thereunder, the IRS may take such actions as are deemed necessary to ensure that such requirements are or shall be satisfied, including suspension of disclosures of return information otherwise authorized by section 6103(j)(5) and paragraph (b) of this section, until the IRS determines that such requirements have been or will be satisfied.

(d) *Effective dates.* This section is applicable on July 31, 2001, except paragraph (b)(2)(xiv) which is applicable on June 19, 2002.

[T.D. 8958, 66 FR 39438, July 31, 2001, as amended by T.D. 9001, 67 FR 41621, June 19, 2002]

§ 301.6103(k)(6)-1 Disclosure of return information by Internal Revenue officers and employees for investigative purposes.

(a) *Disclosure of taxpayer identity information and fact of investigation in connection with official duties relating to examination, collection activity, civil or criminal investigation, enforcement activity, or other offense under the internal revenue laws.* In connection with the performance of official duties relating to any examination, collection activity, civil or criminal investigation, en-

forcement activity, or other offense under the internal revenue laws, or in connection with preparation for any proceeding (or investigation which may result in such a proceeding) described in section 6103(h)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, an officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service or Office of the Chief Counsel therefor is authorized to disclose taxpayer identity information (as defined in section 6103(b)(6)), the fact that the inquiry pertains to the performance of official duties, and the nature of the official duties in order to obtain necessary information relating to performance of such official duties or where necessary in order to properly accomplish any activity described in subparagraph (6) of paragraph (b) of this section. Disclosure of taxpayer identity information to a person other than the taxpayer to whom such taxpayer identity information relates or such taxpayer's legal representative for the purpose of obtaining such necessary information or otherwise properly accomplishing such activities as authorized by this paragraph should be made, however, only if the necessary information cannot, under the facts and circumstances of the particular case, otherwise reasonably be obtained in accurate and sufficiently probative form, or in a timely manner, and without impairing the proper performance of the official duties, or if such activities cannot otherwise properly be accomplished without making such disclosure.

(b) *Disclosure of return information in connection with official duties relating to examination, collection activity, civil or criminal investigation, enforcement activity, or other offense under the internal revenue laws.* In connection with the performance of official duties relating to any examination, collection activity, civil or criminal investigation, enforcement activity, or other offense under the internal revenue laws, an officer or employee of the Service or Office of the Chief Counsel therefor is authorized to disclose return information (as defined in section 6103(b)(2)) in order to obtain necessary information relating to the following—

(1) To establish or verify the correctness or completeness of any return (as

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defined in section 6103(b)(1) of the Code) or return information;

(2) To determine the responsibility for filing a return, for making a return where none has been made, or for performing such acts as may be required by law concerning such matters;

(3) To establish or verify the liability (or possible liability) of any person, or the liability (or possible liability) at law or in equity of any transferee or fiduciary of any person, for any tax, penalty, interest, fine, forfeiture, or other imposition or offense under the internal revenue laws or the amount thereof to be collected;

(4) To establish or verify misconduct (or possible misconduct) or other activity proscribed by the internal revenue laws;

(5) To obtain the services of persons having special knowledge or technical skills (such as, but not limited to, knowledge of particular facts and circumstances relevant to a correct determination of a liability described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph or skills relating to handwriting analysis, photographic development, sound recording enhancement, or voice identification) or having recognized expertise in matters involving the valuation of property where relevant to proper performance of a duty or responsibility described in this paragraph;

(6) To establish or verify the financial status or condition and location of the taxpayer against whom collection activity is or may be directed, to locate assets in which the taxpayer has an interest, to ascertain the amount of any liability described in subparagraph (3) of this paragraph to be collected, or otherwise to apply the provisions of the Code relating to establishment of liens against such assets, or levy on, or seizure, or sale of, the assets to satisfy any such liability; or

(7) To prepare for any proceeding described in section 6103(h)(2) or conduct an investigation which may result in such a proceeding, or where necessary in order to accomplish any activity described in subparagraph (6) of this paragraph.

Disclosure of return information to a person other than the taxpayer to whom such return information relates or such taxpayer's legal representative

for the purpose of obtaining information necessary to properly carry out the foregoing duties and responsibilities as authorized by this paragraph or for the purpose of otherwise properly accomplishing any activity described in subparagraph (6) of this paragraph should be made, however, only if such necessary information cannot, under the facts and circumstances of the particular case, otherwise reasonably be obtained in accurate and sufficiently probative form, or in a timely manner, and without impairing the proper performance of such duties and responsibilities, or if the activities described in subparagraph (6) of this paragraph cannot otherwise properly be accomplished without making such disclosure.

(c) *Disclosure of return information in connection with certain personnel or claimant representative matters.* In connection with the performance of official duties relating to any investigation concerned with the enforcement of any provision of the Code, including enforcement of any rules, directives, or manual issuances prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate under section 7803 or any other provision of the Code, which affect or may affect the personnel or employment rights or status, or civil or criminal liability, of any employee or former or prospective employee of the Treasury Department or the rights of any person who is or may be a party to an administrative action or proceeding pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1026, an officer or employee of the Service or Office of the Chief Counsel therefor is authorized to disclose return information (as defined in section 6103(b)(2)) for the purpose of obtaining, verifying, or establishing other information which is or may be relevant and material to such investigation. Disclosure of return information to a person other than the taxpayer to whom such return information relates or such taxpayer's legal representative for the purpose of obtaining information necessary to properly carry out the foregoing duties and responsibilities as authorized by this paragraph should be made, however, only if such necessary information cannot, under the facts and circumstances of the particular case, otherwise reasonably be

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obtained in accurate and sufficiently probative form, or in a timely manner, and without impairing the proper performance of such duties and responsibilities.

(Secs. 6103 and 7805 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (90 Stat. 1667, 68A Stat. 917; 26 U.S.C. 6103 and 7805))

[T.D. 7723, 45 FR 65569, Oct. 3, 1980]

§ 301.6103(k)(9)-1 Disclosure of returns and return information relating to payment of tax by credit card and debit card.

Officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose to card issuers, financial institutions, or other persons such return information as the Commissioner deems necessary in connection with processing credit card and debit card transactions to effectuate payment of tax as authorized by § 301.6311-2. Officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose such return information to such persons as the Commissioner deems necessary in connection with billing or collection of the amounts charged or debited, including resolution of errors relating to the credit card or debit card account as described in § 301.6311-2(d).

[T.D. 8969, 66 FR 64742, Dec. 14, 2001]

§ 301.6103(l)(2)-1 Disclosure of returns and return information to Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for purposes of research and studies.

(a) *General rule.* Pursuant to the provisions of section 6103(l)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code and subject to the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section, officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose returns and return information (as defined by section 6103(b)) to officers and employees of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for purposes of, but only to the extent necessary in, conducting research and studies authorized by title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

(b) *Procedures and restrictions.* Disclosure of returns or return information by officers or employees of the Service as provided by paragraph (a) of this section will be made only upon written request to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue by the Executive Director

of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation describing the returns or return information to be disclosed, the taxable period or date to which such returns or return information relates, and the purpose for which the returns or return information is needed in the administration of title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and designating by title the officers and employees of such corporation to whom such disclosure is authorized. No such officer or employee to whom returns or return information is disclosed pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (a) shall disclose such returns or return information to any person, other than the taxpayer by whom the return was made or to whom the return information relates or other officers or employees of such corporation whose duties or responsibilities require such disclosure for a purpose described in paragraph (a), except in a form which cannot be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer.

(Secs. 6103 and 7805 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (90 Stat. 1667, 68A Stat. 917; 26 U.S.C. 6103 and 7805))

[T.D. 7723, 45 FR 65570, Oct. 3, 1980]

§ 301.6103(l)(2)-2 Disclosure of returns and return information to Department of Labor for purposes of research and studies.

(a) *General rule.* Pursuant to the provisions of section 6103(l)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code and subject to the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section, officers or employees of the Internal Revenue Service may disclose returns and return information (as defined by section 6103(b)) to officers and employees of the Department of Labor for purposes of, but only to the extent necessary in, conducting research and studies authorized by section 513 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

(b) *Procedures and restrictions.* Disclosure of returns or return information by officers or employees of the Service as provided by paragraph (a) of this section will be made only upon written request to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue by the Administrator of